

## EXPENDITURES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION AS A PERCENT OF GDP

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### *Key Findings: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom, United States*

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With total public expenditures for primary and secondary education at 3.4 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1998, the United States was in the middle of the distribution of the countries presented, behind France (4.1 percent) and Canada (3.7 percent), equal to the United Kingdom and Italy (both at 3.4 percent), and ahead of Germany and Japan (both at 2.8 percent) (figure 22a).

In both 1994 and 1998, total public expenditures for primary and secondary education as a percent of GDP in the United States

was lower than expenditures in Canada and France, and higher than expenditures in Germany and Japan.

Private expenditures for primary and secondary education were 0.4 percent of GDP in the United States in 1994 and 1998 (separate data for private expenditures not shown). The addition of private expenditures did not change the U.S. standing on this indicator, compared to other countries reporting data (figure 22b).

### *Definition and Methodology*

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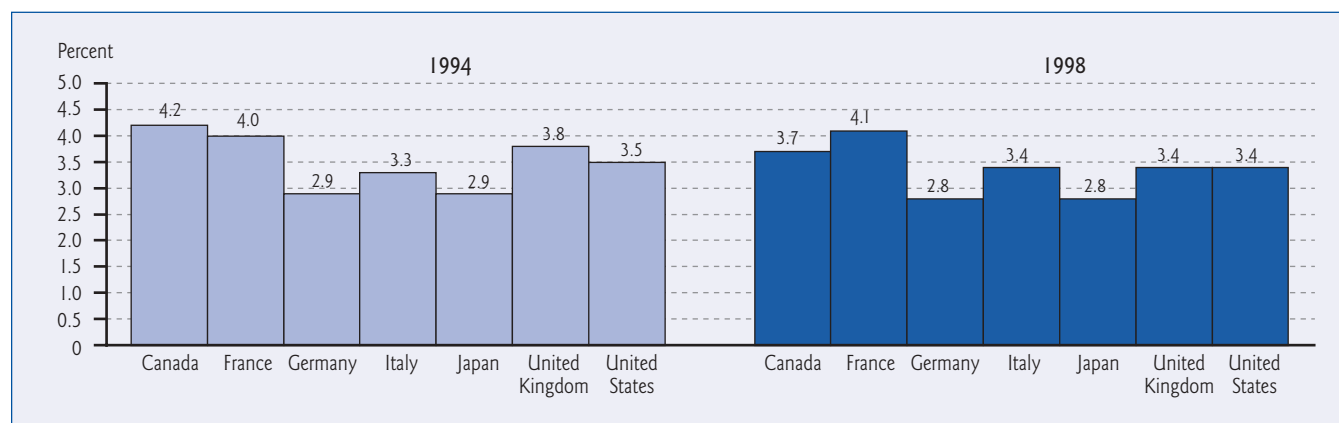
Expenditures include salaries and fringe benefits for teachers and other educational staff, other current expenditures such as supplies and materials, and capital expenditures.

Public and private expenditures as a percent of GDP are calculated as public and private expenditures in public and private institutions divided by GDP. Public expenditures include direct expenditures on institutions and subsidies to households attributable to institutions. Private expenditures include direct private expenditures net of public subsidies attributable to institutions.

Prior to 1997, there was no category called “post-secondary, nontertiary” education in the international classification. For 1994,

expenditures for this type of education were included in expenditures for secondary education in all other countries presented here except the United States. With the establishment of “post-secondary, nontertiary” education as a separate category in 1997, other countries continued to include expenditures for this category in expenditures for secondary education in data for 1998. Expenditures figures for the United States include expenditures for post-secondary, nontertiary education in expenditures for higher education for 1994 and 1998. Comparisons among countries within a given year are thus more appropriate than comparisons over time.

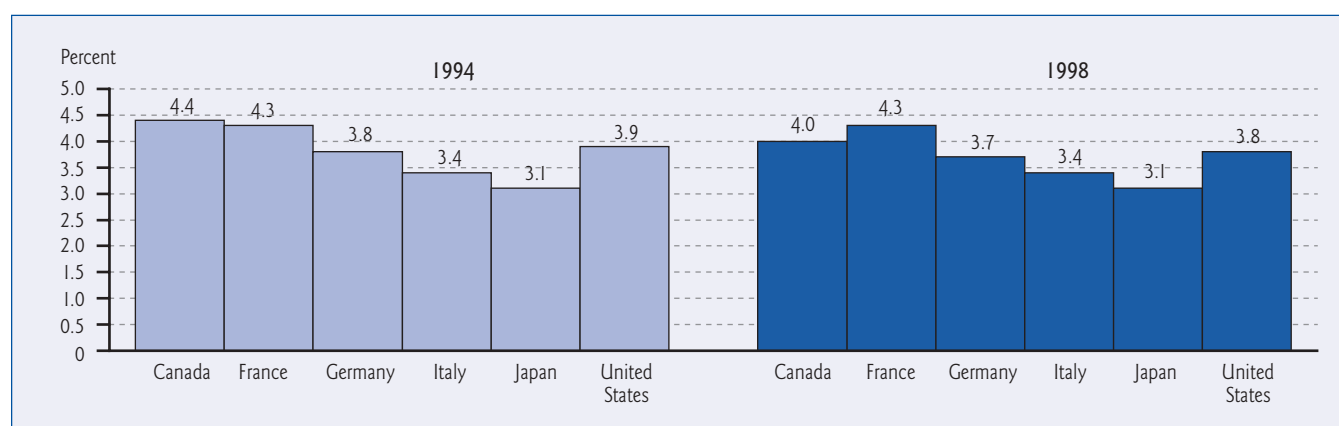
**Figure 22a. Total public expenditures for primary and secondary education as a percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), by country: 1994 and 1998**



NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Figures for 1998 include post-secondary, nontertiary education in all other countries presented except the United States. Gross Domestic Product is the producers' value of the gross outputs of resident producers, including distributive trades and transport, less the value of the purchasers' intermediate consumption plus import duties. GDP is expressed in local money (in millions). Prior to 1997, there was no category called "post-secondary, nontertiary" education in the international classification. For 1994, expenditures for this type of education were included in expenditures for secondary education in all other countries presented here except the United States. With the establishment of "post-secondary, nontertiary" education as a separate category in 1997, other countries continued to include expenditures for this category in expenditures for secondary education in data for 1998. Expenditures figures for the United States include expenditures for post-secondary, nontertiary education in expenditures for higher education for 1994 and 1998. Comparisons among countries within a given year are thus more appropriate than comparisons over time.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table B2.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1996 Table B 1.1b.

**Figure 22b. Total public and private expenditures for primary and secondary education as a percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), by country: 1994 and 1998**



NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Figures for 1998 include post-secondary, nontertiary education in all other countries presented except the United States. Gross Domestic Product is the producers' value of the gross outputs of resident producers, including distributive trades and transport, less the value of the purchasers' intermediate consumption plus import duties. GDP is expressed in local money (in millions). Prior to 1997, there was no category called "post-secondary, nontertiary" education in the international classification. For 1994, expenditures for this type of education were included in expenditures for secondary education in all other countries presented here except the United States. With the establishment of "post-secondary, nontertiary" education as a separate category in 1997, other countries continued to include expenditures for this category in expenditures for secondary education in data for 1998. Expenditures figures for the United States include expenditures for post-secondary, nontertiary education in expenditures for higher education for 1994 and 1998. Comparisons among countries within a given year are thus more appropriate than comparisons over time.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table B2.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1996 Table B 1.1b.

## Expenditures for Primary and Secondary Education as a Percent of GDP – Data Tables

Table A-22a. Public expenditures for primary and secondary education as a percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), by country: 1994 and 1998

Country	Year	
	1994	1998
Canada	4.2	3.7
France	4.0	4.1
Germany	2.9	2.8
Italy	3.3	3.4
Japan	2.9	2.8
United Kingdom	3.8	3.4
United States	3.5	3.4

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Figures for 1998 include postsecondary, non-tertiary education in all other countries present except the United States. Gross Domestic Product is the producers' value of the gross outputs of resident producers, including distributive trades and transport, less the value of the purchasers' intermediate consumption plus import duties. GDP is expressed in local money (in millions). SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table B2.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2000, Table B1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1998, Table B 1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1997, Table B 1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1996, Table F1.1b.

Table A-22b. Public and private expenditures for primary and secondary education as a percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), by country: 1994 and 1998

Country	Year	
	1994	1998
Canada	4.4	4.0
France	4.3	4.3
Germany	3.8	3.7
Italy	3.4	3.4
Japan	3.1	3.1
United States	3.9	3.8

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Figures for 1998 include postsecondary, non-tertiary education in all other countries present except the United States. Gross Domestic Product is the producers' value of the gross outputs of resident producers, including distributive trades and transport, less the value of the purchasers' intermediate consumption plus import duties. GDP is expressed in local money (in millions). SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table B2.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2000, Table B1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1998, Table B 1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1997, Table B 1.1b.

Table A-22c. Private expenditures for primary and secondary education as a percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), by country: 1994 and 1998

Country	Year	
	1994	1998
Canada	0.2	0.3
France	0.3	0.2
Germany	0.9	0.9
Italy	0.1	0.0*
Japan	0.2	0.3
United States	0.4	0.4

\*The figures for Italy are less than one half of 1 percent.

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. Expenditures per student include only public institutions in Italy and Germany in 1994 and Italy in 1998. Expenditures per student only include public and government-dependent private institutions in the United Kingdom in 1994 and 1998. Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) are the occurring exchange rates that equalize the purchasing power of different currencies.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table B2.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2000, Table B1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1998, Table B 1.1b; Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 1997, Table B 1.1b.